

IN RE: South Carolina Electric & Gas Company's
Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)

) ORDER HOLDING
) PETITION TO
) INTERVENE IN
) ABEYANCE, GRANTING
) MOTION FOR LEAVE TO
) FILE REPLY IN SUPPORT
) OF PETITION TO
) INTERVENE, AND
) GRANTING
) PETITIONER’S REQUEST
) FOR AN ALLOWABLE
) EX PARTE BRIEFING

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on a Petition to Intervene filed on April 15, 2011, by the South Carolina Coastal Conservation League (“CCL”), Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (“SACE”), and Upstate Forever (collectively, “Petitioners”) seeking to participate in South Carolina Electric & Gas Company’s (“SCE&G”) 2011 Integrated Resource Plan (“IRP”) Docket. As intervenors, Petitioners state they would request an evidentiary hearing and/or an allowable ex parte briefing in response to SCE&G’s IRP briefing and participate in any such proceeding by providing relevant information and comments based on expert review of the IRP. On April 25, 2011, SCE&G opposed Petitioners’ request to intervene, stating the IRP briefing is not a proceeding that would support this practice, since the briefing is for informational purposes only with no submission of evidence and consequently no

action taken or determination made. Instead, SCE&G urges the Commission to either deny the request or grant Petitioners an Allowable Ex Parte Briefing.

Subsequent to the above exchange, on April 26, 2011, the Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) submitted its support of the Petition to Intervene, stating it believes that Petitioners’ request meets the standards established by governing regulation 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-825(C)(3), among other authority, by showing a tangible interest of its members through extensive comments filed in the Docket. According to ORS’s analysis, these comments address specific concerns with SCE&G’s 2011 IRP and advocate alternatives to the findings SCE&G has submitted in support of its pending presentation. ORS concludes that Petitioners have alleged an interest and set forth grounds of their request that state their position in the proceeding which meets the requirements of Regulation 103-825(C)(3) and therefore supports their standing to intervene.

Specifically, Petitioners’ comments raise concerns regarding the provision of reliable and economic energy, allege failure to present and evaluate alternative supply and demand resource options, along with cost estimates, and further failure to demonstrate how the selected resource mix allows it to meet its forecast requirements in an economic and reliable manner. Petitioners also allege concerns regarding the implications of SCE&G’s high reserve margin and its treatment of energy efficiency as a load modifier rather than a resource equivalent of supply-side resources, which they claim are likely to result in the underutilization of this demand-side resource. Last, Petitioners assert that SCE&G has failed to adequately evaluate renewable resources,

adequately account for environmental compliance costs, and adequately provide detail concerning potential coal unit retirements.

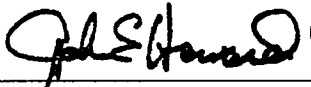
Following ORS's endorsement of their Petition, on April 27, 2011, Petitioners renewed their request for either an evidentiary hearing or alternatively an ex parte briefing in order to have these concerns heard. In conjunction with the renewed request, a Motion for Leave to File Reply in Support of Petition to Intervene was submitted. The Motion in support of the Petition to Intervene, contrary to SCE&G's position, argues that the IRP briefing is a proceeding within the meaning of the Commission's rules and policies that would allow intervention, and for numerous reasons Petitioners meet the intervention requirements.

The IRP briefing had been scheduled for and was held on the following day, April 28, 2011, and the Commission considered the Petitioner's filings at its next public meeting on May 4, 2011.

Based on the Commission's consideration and resulting Directive of that date, we find and hold the Petition to Intervene in abeyance, but grant Petitioner's Motion for Leave to File Reply in Support of Petition to Intervene, and grant Petitioner's request for an Allowable Ex Parte Briefing. Consequently, the Commission's Clerk's Office shall set a date for this Ex Parte Briefing at the Commission's earliest convenience.


This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



John E. Howard, Chairman

ATTEST:



David A. Wright, Vice Chairman
(SEAL)